GOVERNOR'S ARIZONA READY EDUCATION COUNCIL
MINUTES
General Meeting – May 17, 2012
10:00 A.M.

Location: 1700 W. Washington
Governor's 8th Floor Conference Room
Phoenix, AZ

Members Present: Dr. Craig Barrett, Superintendent John Huppenthal, Dr. Tom Anderes,   Tim Carter (telephonic), Senator Rich Crandall, Pearl Esau, Representative Tom Forese, Dr. Michael Kearns, Jake Logan, Amanda McAdams, Diane McCarthy, Nancy Meech, Jaime Molera, Colleen Niccum, Dr. Kathy Player, Onnie Shekerjian, Merl Waschler, and Dr. Jim Zaharis

Members Absent: Don Cardon, and Representative Doris Goodale

Staff Present: Dale Frost, Rebecca Gau, Debra Raeder-Gay, and Kerry McConnell

1. Call to Order, Welcome & Introductions

Dr. Craig Barrett called the meeting to order at 10:01 am .   Dr. Barrett welcomed and introduced, Dr. Kathy Player as the newest Council member.   Dr. Player is the President of Grand Canyon University and the Chair of the Arizona Commission for Postsecondary Education.

Dr. Barrett indicated that purpose of the meeting is to
- Review and discuss updates from education policymakers
- Review and discuss recommendations on Arizona's plan to implement the Arizona College and Career Readiness Standards (Common Core) and the role of the Council moving forward
- Review and discuss Arizona Report Card and Data Analysis
- Review and discuss updates on work of taskforces and provide direction to ensure Council is addressing its' goals

Dr. Barrett advised the audience that "Request to Speak" forms are located at the back of the room. Anyone wishing to address the Council during the Call to the Public portion of the agenda needs to submit a form to Debra.

2. **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

   Superintendent Diane McCarthy moved approval of the April 9, 2012 Council meeting minutes as presented. Onnie Shekerjian seconded and the motion passed unanimously

3. **Reports & Updates**

   - **Arizona Department of Education**
     - **Update on ADE IT Work Group**

   Superintendent Huppenthal indicated that his report would be covered in the next agenda item. The Superintendent then introduced Mark Masterson to provide an update on the work of the ADE IT Work Group. Mr. Masterson indicated that the Work Group has met once. Participants include IT leaders from Intel, Pets Mart, and Avnet, as well as schools/districts. ADE provided the Work Group with an overview of the ADE IT system to date. With this information, the Work Group requested the following information for their review and perusal:
   - ADE business strategy that is driving technology requirements;
   - ADE IT strategy that will meet the ADE business strategy
   - ADE IT implementation strategy (high level)
   - ADE Business and IT sustainability strategy

   The next meeting of the Work Group is scheduled for Friday, June 29th. It is anticipated that the Work Group will work on its first set of recommendation at this meeting and will present these recommendations to the Council in July.

   - **State Board of Education**

   Jaime Molera, President of the State Board of Education, briefly reviewed legislative enactments affecting the Board. President Molera's written report is incorporated by reference.

   - **Arizona Board of Regents**
   - **Arizona Community College Presidents' Council**

   Dr. Tom Anderes, President of the Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR), and Dr. Michael Kearns, President of the Arizona Community College Presidents' Council, presented an update on higher educations' role and commitment to standards implementation and PARCC assessment design. Dr. Anderes introduced Dr. Karen Nicodemus, Dr. Maria Harper-Marinek and Stephanie Jacobson who recently attended a multi-state PARCC meeting of higher education representatives. Dr. Nicodemus reviewed the PARCC Governance Structure; the April 3, 2012 report and recommendations of the PARCC Joint Committee on K-12/Postsecondary Collaboration which identifies four key issues requiring K12 and higher education collaborations. In response to higher education's expanded role in decision-making around the four key issues, Dr. Nicodemus outlined a proposed Arizona Higher Education Engagement infrastructure and work plan. The broadly-defined purposes of higher education's engagement at the state level are to

support standards implementation; PARCC assessment design; higher education and K12 collaborations; and alignment of teacher preparation programs and courses across sectors for preparation of pre-service teachers. Dr. Nicodemus indicated that the Arizona Ready Education Council is identified as the appropriate body to provide high level oversight and leadership to the collaborative work among and between higher education and K12. Key next steps include: build out of infrastructure including interface with K12 leaders; expand awareness within higher education; identify key activities supporting general assessment design; and organize higher education to support review of college-ready performance-level descriptors. Dr. Kearns closed out the presentation by noting the Joint Council of Presidents' support for the proposed infrastructure and work plan.

- Governor's Office of Education Innovation

Rebecca Gau, Director of the Governor's Office of Education Innovation, reported on the work of her office to facilitate implementation of the Arizona Ready Education Plan. Ms. Gau stated that the Council's Report Card would be accessible on the website within the next few days. Additionally, she is working with a consulting firm to develop a communications plan, including messaging and media strategies, for the roll out of the Report Card. Detailed information will be provided at the next Council meeting. Ms. Gau reported on the launch of the Governor's Summer Reading List initiative, which is available on the Arizona Ready website. This initiative is aligned with the suggested reading materials in the Arizona Common Core Standards and is in partnership with the state libraries. A communications plan for this initiative is also currently under development. Ms. Gau stated that work continues with workforce and economic sectors on building a stronger education to workforce pipeline collaboration as well as to address the skills gap. This work is directly linked to the roll out of the Arizona Common Core Standards as well as the GOEI data analysis on graduation rates.

4. **Review & Discussion: Implementation of the Arizona College and Career Readiness Standards (Common Core)**
   - Role of the Council

As requested by the Council at the April 9th meeting, Peter Laing, Kathy Hrabluk and Sarah Galetti, from the Arizona Department of Education, provided an update on the work to implement the Arizona Common Core Standards and recommendations for the role of the Council in this work. This report provided a timeline of work accomplished to date; information on the components of an awareness campaign; and Phase I and Phase II of resource development. Ms. Galetti provided information on the professional development strategies and the PD accomplishments to date. Ms. Galetti reported that 155 Master Educators from all five regions have also been certified as Phase 1 ADE trainers, and that 11,853 participants have received teacher training to date. Work is underway to evaluate and improve the impact and quality of the Common Core rollout. Moving forward, the ADE plans include: increasing educator effectiveness through continuous professional development and the professional supports needed to substantially increase student learning; establishing partnerships with key education stakeholders in Arizona and across the nation to implement transformative change; and coordinating stakeholder engagement to remove obstacles and

barrier to implement transformative change. Mr. Laing presented the following three recommendations for the Council's role in moving this work forward:

- Review progress and strategies, and recommend policy and budget priorities around implementation of the CCR standards;
- Assist in communicating consistent messages with statewide stakeholders; and
- Identify and marshal resources from various stakeholder groups to assist in implementation efforts.

Dr. Barrett stated that the Council, through consensus, accepts this identified role for assisting in the implementation of the Arizona Common Core Standards.

5. **Review & Discussion: Arizona Ready Report Card**   **Kerry McConnell**
   - Data Analysis

In the interest of time Ms. McConnell requested this item be moved to the next meeting of the Council. Dr. Barrett concurred and this item will be presented at the next meeting.

6. **Review & Discussion: Council Taskforces & Workgroups**

Graduation/Drop-out Prevention

Merl Waschler, Chair of the Graduation/Drop-out Prevention Taskforce, provided the Council with the following update:

- Taskforce reviewed and studied the 15 Effective Strategies for Reducing the Dropout Rate from the National Dropout Prevention Center.
- Taskforce asked staff to identify current initiatives and/or gaps in the state in each of the priority areas.
- Taskforce then prioritized strategies where both the taskforce felt they could make a difference and there was not already an obvious partner making headway.
- Taskforce selected the following strategies, which they put into related groups:
  - After School Opportunities, Mentoring and Tutoring
  - Individualized Instruction, Active Learning
  - Alternative Schools, Career and Technical Education
  - Early Literacy Development
- Based on the Arizona data for graduation and drop-out rates, the task force identified as their next step a rigorous research study on what is leading to success in some counties and groups.
- The taskforce will come back with some high level recommendations for the Council's next meeting

K-20 Education Funding

Dr. Craig Barrett, Chair of the K-20 Education Funding Taskforce, provided the Council with the following update:

- After several meetings and extensive discussion, the taskforce has reached consensus that the current K-12 funding system is:

- Antiquated, inequitable and complex
- That the taskforce will focus on allocation (rather than revenue)
- That the funding structure must support and drive the new reforms:
  - Common Core State Standards
  - PARCC Assessment
  - Teacher/Principal Evaluation System; and
  - The accountability system (A-F school labels)
- That a functional data system is imperative
- That a performance enhancement to the funding structure should be explored
- The taskforce will come back with some high level recommendations for the Council's next meeting.

7. **Council Comments & Next steps**

After brief discussion, the Council was in consensus that the next agenda include:
- Continued review and discussion on the work to implement the Common Core Standards
- Report Card Data Review
- Update on NAEP Science scores
- Communications strategy for the Report Card
- Updates and high level recommendations from the current Taskforces
- Update and recommendations from the IT Workgroup

Dr. Barrett requested that Dr. Kathy Player become a member of the K-20 Education Funding Taskforce.

8. **Call to the Public**

Chair Barrett made a call to the public. The following person addressed the Council:
- Hal Borhauer, President of the Peoria Unified School District Governing Board, asked the Council to look at CTE as providing the vehicles for ensuring more students are career ready. Mr. Borhauer also expressed concern over the legislative reductions to CTE funding.

9. **Adjourn**

Chair Barrett thanked everyone for their attendance and participation in today's meeting and advised that the next meeting of the Council would be **July 17th at 10:00 a.m.**

With no further business before the Council, Superintendent Huppenthal motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Pearl Esau and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 11:57 a.m